## Crane, Marcella, A

From:

Crane, Marcella, A

Sent:

Thursday, March 01, 2018 3:13 PM

To:

Erica McFadden (EMcFadden@azdes.gov); St Cyr, Lani, R

Subject:

FW: Follow up with Community Options

Here is the feedback from Community Options. Ms. Cipolla plans on sending me some information on the Meaningful Day.

From: Crane, Marcella, A

Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 3:12 PM
To: Crane, Marcella, A < MCrane@azdes.gov>
Subject: Follow up with Community Options

Questions re: Application

Call on 3/1/2018 with Natalie Cipolla

The project is focused on the Town of Douglas and would consist of daily, two hour classes held over a course of 40 weeks, at the public library. It would require the hiring of two part-time Community Integration Counselors to lead classes with approximately 20-30 adults with disabilities and their caregivers. The proposal did a good job of identifying the demographics of the Douglas population and the potential barriers, specifically: a majority Spanish speaking population and transportation. The Committee members also felt there were additional barriers with the time commitment that would be required to participate in the program:

- 1. Spanish language barrier- determine if the 'Meaningful Day' curriculum is in Spanish or will be translated to accommodate the population. As well as requiring both Community Integration Councilors be bilingual:
  - Curriculum is not currently offered in Spanish; they would translate curriculum into Spanish.
  - o Community options would consider hiring two part counselors to be bi-lingual.
  - They will partner with Legacy Foundation and VR for participant referrals; For anyone that is able to get to the library; and family members who want more information/training
  - The library was chosen b/c easy access to the community; WiFi access and access to meeting rooms.
- Transportation barrier- how vendor plans to overcome getting individuals to the library daily and does their budget accurately cover transportation costs: curriculum addresses how to access transportation barriers:
  - Would like to connect participants with Dial a Ride and Cochise Connections (Douglas to Benson); caregivers will be encouraged to provide transportation to the trainings.
- 3. Time/scheduling barrier how vendor plans to maintain daily class participation over a 40 week timeframe. Would scaling down be an option:
  - O Community Options would be open to a doing a scale down version, for two times a week over the contract period, in 6 month periods.
  - o Curriculum allows flexibility of how it is used and taught, counselors are encouraged to be flexible with each individual.
  - o If participants drop out or can't make a class, the Counselors will look at each participant on a case by case basis if those participants should continue or not.

- 4. Clarify the criteria for enrolment- assess the potential for duplication of services:
  - They will do an intake with each participant, finding out their interests, their goals. The counselors will develop their training around each individual so caregivers can continue to work them at home. They want a partnership to develop between the person with the disability and their caregiver.
- 5. Can the program be delivered on a scale down phase, how would that look like:
  - Program can be scaled down to twice a week, still for 2 hours, still have access to counselors for ongoing support, 6 month pilot. The Units or areas to be addressed in the curriculum can be tailored for each participant. They want to address persons centered approach for each individual. Bi-monthly outings would still be place.
- 6. What services are now offered in Cochise county by Community Options:
  - O Curriculum is offered at all day programs operated by Community Options, including in AZ. Respite services are only offered in Cochise County. Wendy Johnson helps to oversee that part of the current work.
  - o Re: status of Wendy Johnson, she is out sick.

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Marcella Crane | mcrane@azdes.gov Contracts Manager | Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council O: (602) 542-8976 | F: (602) 542-8978 addpc.az.gov | Facebook | Twitter

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